United States Mission to the OSCE

Supporting Human Rights and Democracy: The U.S. Record 2005-2006

As delivered by Chargé d'Affaires Kyle Scott to the Permanent Council, Vienna April 6, 2006

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the Permanent Council that yesterday in Washington we released the U.S. Department of State's Annual report entitled "Supporting Human Rights and Democracy: The U.S. Record 2005-2006". This is essentially the companion version of the Country Reports which were released several weeks ago and about which we informed the Permanent Council.

This report details the United States' strategies and programs to promote democracy and protect human rights worldwide. It describes the broad array of tools that we use, including our bilateral and multilateral diplomatic engagements but also nearly \$1.5 Billion in technical assistance aimed at strengthening governing capacity, supporting the development of democratic states and institutions that are responsible and accountable to their citizens and promoting human rights and the rule of law. In particular, it details U.S. programs in 15 OSCE participating States and also discusses the role of the OSCE and our overall strategy in Eurasia.

For delegations who are interested in looking into this, the document is available on the Internet at http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/shrd/2005/.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.